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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**August 13, 2002**

### **1.5 Million Dollars worth of Heroin Seized**

**Falfurrias, Texas** –August 13, 2002, at approximately 12:00 a.m., a northbound bus arrived at the Border Patrol Checkpoint south of Falfurrias, Texas. An agent proceeded to board the bus and inquired as to the citizenship of its occupants. An agent assigned as a canine handler guided his dog in performing a non-intrusive free air inspection of the lower compartment of the bus.

The service canine alerted to a large black garment bag. The agent observed that there was no claim ticket or name attached to it. The passengers of the bus were asked if anyone was the owner of the bag, but, no one claimed ownership. The bag was taken and given a more intensified search.

Once the clothes was removed from inside the bag, agents noticed the bottom of the bag had been tampered with. There was a depth difference and the lining seemed to have been recently re-glued. The bottom of the bag had been altered and once removed three bundles were discovered. The bundles, which contained brown heroin, were covered with black carbon paper. A search of the clothes also revealed that extra liners were sewn on. Every piece of clothing had a liner sewn on concealing the heroin. Three bundles and 17 liner portions were discovered in this seizure. No arrests were made.

The total amount of heroin was 17.9 pounds and is valued at \$1,432,000.00.

The case was turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration in Corpus Christi, Texas.

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